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Viewing cable 05NEWDELHI2416, DEFENSE MINISTER UPBEAT ON INDO-US RELATIONS, BUT

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#05NEWDELHI2416**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
05NEWDELHI2416	2005-03-31 13:33	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy New Delhi

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/the-india-cables/article1576796.ece>

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

311333Z Mar 05

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NEW DELHI 002416

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/31/2010

TAGS: [MARR](#) [MASS](#) [MCAF](#) [IN](#) [NSSP](#)

SUBJECT: DEFENSE MINISTER UPBEAT ON INDO-US RELATIONS, BUT
USG RESPONSE TO THE MRCA RFI MAY FALL SHORT

Classified By: Ambassador David C. Mulford for reasons 1.4 (a), (b), (d), (e)

1. (C) Summary. During a 30 March meeting with Indian Defense Minister Mukherjee, Ambassador Mulford reviewed the scope and results of SECSTATE's visit to India.
 2. (C) Ambassador Mulford opened the meeting by highlighting the achievements of Secretary Rice's visit. He explained the overall goals of the US-India Strategic Dialogue.
 3. (C) Turning to the notification of the F-16 sale to Pakistan, Ambassador Mulford acknowledged that the US decision has created concerns with India.
 4. (C) Mukherjee responded by saying that in his previous dialogue with Secretary Rumsfeld he had the opportunity to explain India's view of the F-16 sale.
 5. (C) Mukherjee was encouraged by Secretary Rice's visit to India and appreciated her conveying President Bush's desire to help India realize its economic growth.
 6. (C) The discussion turned to the upcoming series of high level US and GOI visits scheduled to take place over the next 10 months. Mukherjee expressed his interest in a visit to the US.
 7. (C) At the conclusion of the meeting, MOD's note-taker Joint Secretary (International Cooperation) Gautam Mukhopadhyaya raised concerns that the US decision on the F-16 sale could impact the US-India Strategic Dialogue.
 8. (C) Comment. Previously the Indian Air Force had stated that the intent of the RFI was to ensure USG would permit US companies to compete for the sale.
- MULFORD "